

NORCO CLEANERS, INC.
DOLTON, ILLINOIS

Norco Cleaners of Dolton, Illinois, does commercial drycleaning, wetcleaning, and laundering. It was the first drycleaner in the state to be designated an Illinois Gold Star Drycleaner by the Illinois Drycleaner Star Recognition Program. Norco's staff of 15 employees includes three Certified Environmental Drycleaners.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Past Accomplishments

Norco Cleaners has demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the areas of emissions and solid waste. Since 1997, the facility has:

- **Reduced emissions of VOCs** by 29% through substituting wetcleaning for drycleaning and thus reducing the amount of cleaning solvent.
- **Reduced solid waste** from filter cartridges by 67% by pre-filtering waste in re-useable bags.

Future Commitments

Norco Cleaners also committed to continued environmental improvement through reductions in solid waste, material use, product packaging, and energy use. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduce solid waste** from filter cartridges by 50% by increased monitoring of pre-filtering and process substitution.
- **Reduce material use** by reducing solvent use 32% through re-using solvent recovered in pre-filter bags.
- **Reduce product packaging** by 12.5% through reducing or eliminating poly wrapping of cleaned commercial garments/fabrics delivered inside buildings.
- **Reduce energy use** by 11% per pound of cleaning through upgrading hot water heaters, laundry dryers, and motors to more efficient models.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Norco Cleaners plays an active role in their small community and have frequent contact with local elected officials—mayor, state senator, and state representative—who are also customers. Staff participates in the Chamber of Commerce and numerous professional organizations, as well as Citizens for a Better Environment and the Center for Neighborhood Technology. The president of Norco writes a monthly column for his church bulletin on environmental tips. Norco will publicize their Annual Performance Report through counter flyers, news releases, an open house, and notices on coupons and other marketing materials.

AT A GLANCE

Industry Sector:	SIC 7216
Business:	Drycleaning, wetcleaning, and laundering.
Facility Employees:	fewer than 50
Accomplishments:	Reduced emissions of VOCs Reduced solid waste
2003 Commitments:	Reduce solid waste Reduce material use Reduce product packaging Reduce energy use
Address:	1320 East Dolton Ave. Dolton, IL 60419